States	*(Rs. in Lakhs*
Mizoram	0.00
Nagaland	0.00
Orissa	15.67
Punjab	0.00
Pondicherry	0.00
Rajasthan	97.43
Sikkim	0.00
Tamil Nadu	1.50
Tripura	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	11.97
West Bengal	2.10
TOTAL:	1980.00

National action plan for total eradication of manual scavenging

1568. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTYALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the National Action Plan for Total eradication of Manual Scavenging by 2007;

(b) whether the scheme is going to be operated in a persuasive mode or would strict penal actions be taken against those who are found to be indulging in operation of manual scavengers and thereby hampering their rehabilitation exercise; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTYALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The
salient features of the National Action Plan for Total Eradication of Manual Scavenging by 2007 are:—

(i) Identification of manual scavengers.

(ii) Adoption of the "Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993" by all the States where manual scavenging exists.

(iii) Low Cost Sanitation Programme—conversion of Dry Latrines.

(iv) Involvement of Non-govemmental Organisations.

(b) and (c) The Employment of Manual Scavenger and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993 provides for the prohibition of employment of manual scavengers as well as construction or continuance of dry latrines. Article 16 of the Act provides 'Notwithstanding anything contained in the Code of criminal Procedure, 1973, every offence under this Act shall be cognizable'.

In the State of Uttar Pradesh, 5583 persons were prosecuted/being prosecuted for contravention of the provisions of the Act.

BPL population in urban areas

1569. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Below Poverty Line persons in the urban areas of the country and their percentage of the total population of urban areas, all India as well as State-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to initiate any new schemes to improve the living conditions of the Below-Poverty-Line people in urban areas and to create employment opportunities for them;

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when these are likely to be implemented; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The
number and percentage of Below Poverty Line population in Urban areas, as estimated by the Planning Commission in 1999-2000, all India as well as State-wise, is given in the statement (See below).

(b) to (d) Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation is